



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS 10 ILLEGAL ALIENS ARRIVING AT MIDWAY AIRPORT

CHICAGO — Ten illegal aliens from Mexico were arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents at Midway Airport last week as they disembarked from a domestic Southwest Airlines flight.

All 10 Mexican nationals — eight males and two females — are currently in ICE custody and have been placed in deportation proceedings.

ICE special agents received information that a group of suspected illegal aliens had boarded Southwest Airlines flight 1225 that had departed Las Vegas destined for Chicago's Midway Airport. ICE special agents met the flight as it arrived at Midway Friday afternoon and identified, interviewed and apprehended the illegal aliens. The investigation determined that the aliens had illegally entered the U.S. by crossing the southwest border. They made their way to Las Vegas and boarded the Chicago flight to fly to destinations in the Midwest and eastern parts of the country.

Domestic airports are increasingly being used by criminal organizations to move smuggled aliens to destinations across the country.

"Human smuggling is a violent criminal enterprise that puts the safety of our communities at risk," said ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Elissa Brown. "ICE is committed to using its resources and authorities not only to disrupt this activity, but to identify and dismantle the criminal organization behind it." Brown heads the ICE Chicago Office of Investigations, which includes the states of: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Wisconsin.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.